

COMPLETE LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.-34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently Amended). A method of identifying TSE-infected B cells associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy in a test sample, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a test sample;

collecting B-cells from the test sample;

subjecting said B-cells to homogenization;

subjecting said homogenized B-cells to proteinase kinase K digestion;

subjecting said digested B-cells to SDSPG SDS Page immunoaffinity chromatography blots; and

contacting said blots with an anti-PrP antibody,

wherein the presence of a signal from said anti-PrP antibody-PrP complex in the sample is indicative of TSE-infected B-cells.

36. (Currently Amended). A method of identifying TSE-infected T cells associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy in a test sample, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a test sample;

collecting T-cells from the test sample;

subjecting said T-cells to homogenization;

subjecting said homogenized T-cells to proteinase kinase K digestion;

subjecting said digested T-cells to SDSPG SDS Page immunoaffinity chromatography blots; and

contacting said blots with an anti-PrP antibody,

wherein the presence of a signal from said anti-PrP antibody-PrP complex in the sample is indicative of TSE-infected T-cells.

37. (Currently Amended). A method of identifying TSE-infected B cell and TSE-infected T cells associated with transmissible spongiform encephalopathy in a test sample, the method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a test sample;

collecting B-cells and T-cells from said test sample;

subjecting said B-cells and T-cells to homogenization;

subjecting said homogenized B-cells and T-cells to proteinase kinase K digestion;

subjecting said digested B-cells and T-cells to SDSPG SDS Page immunoaffinity chromatography blots; and

contacting said blots with an anti-PrP antibody,
wherein the presence of a signal from said anti-PrP antibody-PrP complex in the sample is
indicative of TSE-infected B-cells and TSE-infected T-cells.

38. – 40. (Cancelled)